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BOROUGH OF LEOMINSTER
HEREFORDSHIRE



JOINT
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and of the
Public Health Inspector
for the year
1957



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MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(As at 31st December, 1957)

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, Councillor D. R. JONES, J.P.

THE DEPUTY MAYOR, Alderman F. H. DALE, J.P.
(Chairman of the Finance Committee)

Aldermen :

N. DAVIS (Chairman of the Industrial Development
Committee)

A. E. P. HAMMOND

H. B. THOMAS (Chairman of the Streets and Works
Committee)

Councillors :

A. T. BISHOP

S. R. BOOTH, J.P.

R. B. BURKE

C. P. GOODWIN

J. HAMER

C. W. HARRIS

W. E. PARKER (Chairman of the Housing and Public
Health Committee)

Mrs. P. P. PEATT

H. E. POWELL

G. J. WILLIAMS

F. W. WOODWARD (Chairman of the Baths and
Pleasure Grounds Committee)

Town Clerk and Chief Financial Officer	-	K. DOWNS
Surveyor	- - - - -	H. SCHOFIELD

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	-	-	-	O. L. EVANS, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. (from 1.3.57)
Acting Medical Officer of Health	-	-	-	I. F. MACKENZIE, M.D.(Edin.), D.P.H., D.T.M. & H. (from 1.1.57 to 28.2.57 and from 18.6.57)
Public Health Inspector	-	-	-	A. S. SMITH, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Meats and other Foods
Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health			-	C. A. PREECE
Clerk to the Public Health Inspector			-	Mrs. E. M. BRADLEY

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Members of the Leominster Borough Council.

Madam and Gentlemen,

The Annual Report for 1957 is presented herewith. It has been prepared jointly by the Public Health Inspector and myself. To our Public Health Inspector must go the credit for the major portion of the report, because, as even a cursory glance through its pages will show, it deals very largely with those aspects of the public health service of the borough that are within his province. As his work and that of the Medical Officer of Health are very closely inter-related, it is much better to have the report presented as a joint effort as we in Leominster have done for the past three years.

Members of the Council will not misunderstand me when I say that it is with regret that I find myself in the unexpected position of having to present the report for 1957. My regret is due to the fact that that duty devolved upon me because of the serious illness of Dr. O. L. Evans, my colleague and successor. When I relinquished the office of Medical Officer of Health at the beginning of the year and introduced him to the Northern districts, none of us thought that within three months he would be stricken with Paralytic Poliomyelitis of such severity that his own resignation would ultimately become inevitable. That very unhappy event—his resignation—took place at the end of the year and a successor was subsequently appointed. Though the members of the Council and the officials have recently (1st May, 1958) welcomed Dr. G. D. K. Needham, the new Medical Officer of Health, very warmly, that welcome was saddened by the reflection that the youthful Dr. O. L. Evans, who endeared himself to all of us during our short period of co-operative work in the public health service of Herefordshire, was still confined to hospital because of extensive paralysis.

The outbreak of Poliomyelitis, which the illness of Dr. O. L. Evans, the first case in the district heralded, smouldered throughout the summer months, and fourteen cases were notified and confirmed ; five of them being paralytic

in character. The urgency with which vaccination against Poliomyelitis is being proceeded with by the County Health Committee, through Dr. J. S. Cookson, the County Medical Officer, to the limit of the available supplies of vaccine, is heartening to parents within the borough who are anxious to have their children protected before the commencement of the seasonal period of greatest risk. A substantial proportion of our children have been vaccinated, and it is expected that many more will be treated before the incidence of this disease again rises throughout the country.

I. F. MACKENZIE,
Acting Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Office,
4, Church Street,
Leominster.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	....	....	....	....	....	8,728
Population	....	....	....	....	....	6,170
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1957) according to the Rate Books	....	....	....	....	....	1,923
Rateable Value	....	....	....	....	....	£68,094
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	....	....	....	....	....	£268

EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

		Total	Male	Female
LIVE BIRTHS (Legitimate)	....	87	34	53
(Illegitimate)	....	1	—	1
STILL BIRTHS	....	1	—	1
DEATHS	....	99	51	48
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE	....	1	1	—
DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES		Nil		

COMPARABLE DATA FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, 1957

Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population)	....	14.3
Birth Rate for England and Wales	....	16.1
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total live and still births)	....	11.2
Still Birth Rate for England and Wales	....	22.4
Death Rate (per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population)	....	16.0
Death Rate for England and Wales	....	11.5
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 related live births)	....	11.4
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales	....	23.0

WATER

PIPED SUPPLIES (Public Water Mains)

Chlorination of piped water continued throughout the year. At the Waterworks Pumping Station a modern type chlorination plant is in operation.

- (1) The piped water supply of the area and of its several parts has mainly been satisfactory in quality and fully adequate in quantity
- (2) Bacteriological Examinations
 - (a) RAW WATER BEFORE TREATMENT—four samples taken, three of which were free from organisms of faecal origin.
 - (b) WATER AFTER CHLORINATION—73 samples taken of which 60 were free from organisms of faecal origin.

Number of samples taken from taps at consumers' premises	....	....	....	58
Number of samples taken from Waterworks Pumping Station	....	....	....	15

RESULTS OF ANALYSES OF SAMPLES

Number of samples from consumers' taps	Coliform count per 100 ml.	Bact. Coli. per 100 ml.
46	0	0
3	1	0
1	1	1
3	2	2
1	5	3
1	5	5
1	13	13
1	25	1
1	50	5
Total 58		
Number of samples from Waterworks		
10	0	0
2	1	1
1	3	3
1	5	5
1	11	0
Total 15		

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION—one sample taken which was satisfactory

**RECOMMENDED STANDARDS FOR
CHLORINATED PIPED WATER SUPPLIES**

(Ministry of Health Report, 1956)—proper chlorination should yield a water free from any coliform organisms in 100 ml. If a chlorinated water shows the presence of coliform organisms, an investigation into the efficiency and working of the treatment plant should be undertaken.

NOTE.—The standard above refers essentially to the quality of chlorinated water entering the distribution system and not to that of water taken on the consumers' premises, as some slight deterioration is liable to occur during its passage to the consumer

- (3) No plumbo-solvent action—hard water.
- (4) ACTION TAKEN IN RESPECT OF ANY FORM OF CONTAMINATION—immediate re-sampling.
- (5) Number of dwelling-houses and approximate population supplied from Public Water Mains :
 - (a) Direct to houses 1758
 - Approximate population 5600
 - (b) By means of Standpipes 19
 - Approximate population 40

Of approximately 379 occupied houses in the Out-Parish, about 228 houses are supplied with piped chlorinated water.

SHALLOW WELLS or SPRING WATER SUPPLIES

The approximate number of houses relying on spring or well water is as follows :

Out Parish	....	....	....	....	151
Approximate population		....	....	....	460

REMARKS

The following Out-Parish areas are not provided with piped supplies :
Brierley, Cholstrey, Elms Green, Stagsbatch, Aulden and Wintercott, Stretford and Hennor, Wharton and Marlbrook.

WATER SAMPLES TAKEN AND SUBMITTED FOR ANALYSIS

- (a) Piped supplies (House taps, Waterworks Well, Midsummer Meadow Well and Western Supply Well 78
- (b) Wells, boreholes and springs 11
- (c) Open air Swimming Bath 28

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

House drains and other buildings (old premises)

Smoke, colour and water tests	....	....	....	9
New drains laid	....	....	....	10
Cleansed, trapped or ventilated	....	....	....	33
Inspection chambers built	....	....	....	18
Septic tanks built or cleansed	....	....	....	4
Sinks installed	....	....	....	4
Additional closets, renewals or conversions	....	....	....	12
Baths and hot water installed	....	....	....	8
Wash hand basins installed	....	....	....	9

BOROUGH PROPER—Drainage of old premises is in the main poor, consisting usually of unjointed pipes, devoid of inspection chambers or ventilation shafts.

No Borough sewage works exists and sewage disposal is to an open ditch. Plans for a new sewage works have been approved by the Ministry concerned.

A storm water relief sewer has been constructed during the year for the South Street/Gateway Lane areas.

OUT-PARISH—New houses are drained to septic tanks.

Approximate number of occupied houses drained to sewer :

Borough Proper	....	....	....	....	1524
Out-Parish	....	....	....	....	89

Number of houses not drained to sewer :

Borough Proper	....	....	....	....	25
Out-Parish	....	....	....	....	290

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Flooding involving occupied houses was experienced during the month of September in the Bridge Street, North Road and Mill Street areas.

Many houses in the floodline are of low standard, prejudicial to health and of a type which should be demolished and replaced by dry houses on suitable sites.

SCHOOLS

The sanitary accommodation at one school of approximately 60 children consists of an external structure in yard area formed into five pail closets and two non-flush urinals situated within a few feet of a classroom wall containing an opening window for classroom ventilation. School meals are consumed in the classrooms. Washing facilities are two small wash hand basins with cold water but without constant hot water apparatus. The attention of the appropriate authority has been drawn to these conditions.

The sanitary and washing accommodation provided at the school are below and not in accordance with, the standards prescribed in “ The Standards for School Premises Regulations, 1954 ”.

TENTS AND CARAVANS

Camping does not exist on a large scale. No sites registered.

Caravans removed	....	....	....	....	5
Visits	....	....	....	....	35

REFUSE COLLECTION, REMOVAL, DISPOSAL AND TREATMENT

(1) Collection—Borough Proper	....	Vehicular collection once per week
Out-Parish	....	Vehicular collection weekly or fortnightly according to locality
Dusbins renewed	....	49
(2) Disposal of refuse	....	Tipping
(3) Treatments against rodents	....	Periodical baiting and poisoning

DISINFECTIONS AND DISINFESTATIONS

Premises fumigated or disinfected	....	4
Mode of operation	....	Fumigators and liquid spraying

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The sewer received one treatment at certain manholes. Little evidence of rat infestation was found in the sewer. The Public Abattoir, Sewage Ditch and Refuse Tip received periodic treatments.

Sewers :

Number of manholes treated	....	....	11
Number of treatments	....	....	1

Dwelling-houses, Farms, Business Premises and Local Authority Premises :

Number treated against rats	....	....	83
Number treated against mice	....	....	6
Number of re-treatments	....	....	6

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Number on Register (excluding Building Sites)	....	87
Number of Inspections	....	114
Number of written notices served	....	13

Cases in which defects were found

	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness	2	1
Sanitary conveniences (unsuitable, defective or insufficient)	13	8
Miscellaneous	3	1

HOUSING

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, came into operation on the 30th August, 1954, under which every local authority in the country was within one year required to submit to the appropriate Minister proposals for dealing with houses which appeared to be unfit for human habitation and of houses which ought to be included in Clearance Areas, together with the programme of action in relation to the houses within the next five years.

The Leominster proposals and plan of action submitted in August, 1955, were as follows :

- | | | |
|------|---|------------|
| (i) | Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation within the meaning of Section 9 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and suitable for action under Section 11 or Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936 | 340 |
| (ii) | Period in years which the Council think necessary for securing the demolition of all the houses in (i) | 10/15 yrs. |

Orders already made, etc.

- | | | |
|-------|---|----|
| (iii) | Number of houses in (i) in clearance areas and already covered by operative clearance or compulsory purchase orders or owned by the Local Authority | 80 |
|-------|---|----|

Action in the first five years

- | | | |
|-------|---|-----|
| (iv) | Number of houses which are to be included in clearance areas still to be declared and which within the first five years will be owned by the local authority or will have been included in a Clearance Order or a Compulsory Purchase Order submitted to the Minister | 140 |
| (v) | Number of houses (iii) and (iv) to be patched (if necessary) and retained within the five years under Section 2 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, for temporary accommodation | 10 |
| (vi) | Number of houses under (iii) and (iv) to be demolished in the first five years | 120 |
| (vii) | Number of houses (including those already comprised in operative demolition orders) to be demolished in the five years as a result of action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 | 5 |

Action taken against (iii) on previous page (Operative Clearance Orders)

Houses demolished	Number demolished	Year demolished
53, Bridge Street	1	1955
123, 125, Bridge Street	2	1956
1 and 2, Sydney Gardens	2	1956
10, 12, 14, Vicarage Street	3	1957
4, Cranes Court	1	1957
Total houses	9	—

Number of houses under Operative Clearance

Orders void at 31st December, 1957 18

Action taken against (vii) on previous page (Operative Demolition Orders)

Houses demolished	Number demolished	Year demolished
2 and 3 Wharton Lane	2	1956

Action taken against (iv) on previous page

CLEARANCE AREAS—during the year 1956 nine areas involving 55 houses were declared as CLEARANCE AREAS, but at the end of the year 1957 the position was unchanged.

OBSERVATIONS

First Post-war proposed Clearance Areas (55 houses as above)

Over three years have elapsed since the date of operation of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, under which was submitted the Council's plan of action for dealing with houses unfit for human habitation and the following table indicates the action.

Year	Months	Action
1955	12 months ended December, 1955	Estimated figures submitted on required form of proposals.
1956	12 months ended December, 1956	Official Representations and Clearance Area resolutions.
1957	12 months ended December, 1957	Nil.

In August, 1956, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government issued Circular No. 44/56 with the heading "SLUM CLEARANCE ; Simplification and Acceleration of Administrative Procedure". In this circular it was indicated that the purpose was to ask the Council to take note first, of certain changes which were to be made in administrative procedure, and secondly, of ways in which the progress of orders could be accelerated.

ACQUISITIONS

Newman House was acquired during the year, and is being converted into two houses and four flats.

HOUSING STATISTICS

(1)	The total applications for new Council houses at the 31st December, 1957 was 301				
(2)	The number of houses situate in Clearance Areas covered by operative Clearance Orders confirmed prior to 1940 and still standing, is 71 of which 53 are occupied. This figure shows a steady fall. At the 31st December, 1956, the number of houses occupied was 57.				
(3)	Tenants re-housed during the year from Clearance Areas covered by operative Clearance Orders prior to 1940				3
(4)	Total number of Clearance Area houses demolished :				
	Pre-war 1939	....	60		
	Post-war	....	49	....	109
(5)	Individual unfit houses demolished voluntarily and under Section 11 of Housing Act, 1956 :				
	Pre-war 1939	....	14		
	Post-war	....	20	....	34
(6)	Number of individual unfit houses subject to Demolition Orders occupied at 31st December, 1957				3
(7)	Number of houses and flats on which Improvement Grants authorised				6
(8)	Houses improved with Grants				7

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR

(a)	Total	....	....	....	....	15
(b)	With State Assistance under Housing Acts :					
	(1)	By Local Authority	....	....		7
	(2)	By other bodies or persons	....	....		—
(c)	Without State Assistance :					
	(1)	By other bodies or persons	....	....		8
		(a)	Borough	4		
		(b)	Out-parish	4		

WESTFIELD ESTATE—NEWLANDS ROAD (Private Enterprise Section)

One house was completed and occupied during the year.

WESTFIELD ESTATE (Council Houses)

The Westfield Estate has a total of 140 inhabited post-war Council houses, all of traditional type. Seven houses were completed and occupied during the year. Further development is proceeding with traditional type houses.

STATISTICS RELATING TO COUNCIL HOUSES AND FLATS
BOROUGH AND OUT-PARISH

		Built Pre-war 1939	Built Post-war 1947-57	Old houses acquired	Total
Caswell Estate					
Caswell Terrace	....	8	—	—	8
Caswell Crescent	....	28	—	—	28
Caswell Road	....	54	—	—	54
Worcester Road	....	8	—	—	8
					98
Gateway Lane					
Croft Street	....	43	4	—	47
Churchill Avenue	....	—	42	—	42
George Street	....	—	2	—	2
Mortimer Street	....	39	—	—	39
Mortimer Close	....	—	12	—	12
Mortimer Place	....	2	—	—	2
Holland Road	....	6	20†	—	26
Wigmore Street	....	10	16‡	—	26
George Street	....	—	24*	—	24
					220
Westfield Estate					
Westfield Walk	....	—	9	—	9
West Croft	....	—	22	—	22
Sandpits	....	—	62	—	62
Pump Piece	....	—	43	—	43
Newlands Road	....	—	8	—	8
					144
Individual Areas					
Cranes Lane	....	6	—	—	6
Rainbow Street	....	6	—	—	6
					12
Out-Parish Estates					
Hengrave Green, Ivington	....	—	12‡	—	12
					12
Properties Acquired					
Bargates	....	—	—	3	3
Dishley Street	....	—	—	1	1
Etnam Street	....	—	—	7	7
West Croft	....	—	—	1	1
Library House	....	—	—	1	1
Grange Court	....	—	—	1	1
Newman House	....	—	—	1§	1
					15
		210	276	15	501
					501

† Temporary prefrabricated bungalows—10 year type.

‡ Permanent prefabricated houses—Airey type.

* Permanent prefabricated houses—Cornish Units.

§ For conversion to two houses and four flats.

SUMMARY

Types and numbers of Council houses :

Permanent prefabricated—Airey type	....	....	28
Permanent prefabricated—Cornish Unit	....	....	24
Temporary prefabricated bungalows—10 year type	....	....	20
Traditional brick houses—402			
Traditional brick flats—12	....	....	414
Old houses acquired	....	....	14
Old premises acquired (Newman House)	....	....	1
Total	....	....	501

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

NUMBER AND TYPE OF FOOD PREMISES

Type of Premises	Number of Premises
(a) GROCERS (including sale of fruit, fish, game, vegetables and pre-packed ice-cream)	36
(b) SWEETS and SUGAR CONFECTIONERY (including the sale of pre-packed ice-cream)	11
(c) RESTAURANTS and CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS (including fish and chip fryers, sale of pre-packed ice-cream)	12
(d) LICENSED PREMISES (Hotels, Inns and Clubs)	31
(e) BAKERS and CONFECTIONERS	8
(f) BUTCHERS	8
(g) SCHOOL MEAL KITCHENS	4
(h) CORN STORES and SHOPS	8
(i) MOBILE CANTEENS (stalls)	2
(j) POULTERERS (including egg packers)	5
Total	125

**NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES, by TYPE,
REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 of the FOOD and DRUGS ACT, 1955**

(k) SALE OF PRE-PACKED ICE-CREAM

Grocers	....	....	....	....	8
Restaurants and Catering Establishments	....	....	....	....	7
Sweets and Sugar Confectionery (including Kiosk)	....	....	....	....	7
Confectioners	....	....	....	....	1
Inns (Off-licences)	....	....	....	....	1
Total	....	....	....	....	24

Number of inspections	....	—	....	....	12
Number of samples of ice-cream sent for analysis	....	....	....	....	12

(1) PREPARATION OR MANUFACTURE OF SAUSAGES,
POTTED, PRESSED, PICKLED or PRESERVED FOOD

Butchers	....	....	....	....	....	5
Bakers and Confectioners			....	....	....	3
Fish Fryers	....	....	....	....	....	2
						—
				Total	....	10
						—

Number of inspections 36

ICE CREAM

There are no ice-cream manufacturing premises in operation in the district. All retail premises have electric continuous freezers and retail pre-packed ice-cream only.

Sampling

Sampling for bacteriological analysis is carried out from time to time.

Number of samples falling into Grade 1 (satisfactory)	....	10
Number of samples falling into Grade 2 (satisfactory)	....	1
Number of samples falling into Grade 3 (unsatisfactory)	....	1
		—
	Total sampes taken	.... 12
		—

FOOD PREMISES—Inspection, Supervision and Comment

There are no food factories in the area other than retail shops, bakehouses, restaurants and hotel kitchens.

Routine inspections are carried out from time to time under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, and byelaws made under the Food and Drugs Act. Contraventions are followed up by communications and reports to the appropriate Committee when found necessary.

1. Legal proceedings authorised and instituted	....	1
2. Informal notices and warnings served	....	24
3. Miscellaneous letters	....	5

In regard to (1) above, information was laid under Sections 32 and 33 of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, pertaining to Regulation 5, 16(2) and 23(1) in regard to a catering establishment. The case was ultimately withdrawn following completion of agreed works which included the installation of constant hot water apparatus in the food kitchen.

In the Annual Report for 1956 we stated that in place of the initial registration of certain types of premises, carrying little value from the point of view of public health, an annual licensing system covering all food premises would tend towards improved hygiene and equipment.

In this Report we take the matter a step further and suggest that it should be made unlawful for any premises or place to be opened for the production and sale of open food, prior to the issue of a licence by the local authority.

The necessity to obtain, firstly, a licence through the local sanitary authority would :

- (1) act as a deterrent against the setting up of a food business on unsuitable premises, or on premises not previously examined by the public health department.
- (2) ensure that licensed food premises were, from the commencement of the trade or business, suitable, and in accordance with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

Annual licensing thereafter would tend to ensure continuity of hygienic production, display, and sale of food.

MILK SUPPLY

1. Routine inspection of Dairies.
2. Collection of samples of designated and non-designated milk for analysis.
 - (a) Examination for bacterial cleanliness and heat treatment.
 - (b) Examination for Tubercle Bacilli, etc.
3. The major portion of milk supplies retailed in the district is designated milk and mainly pasteurised.

NUMBER OF SAMPLES TAKEN

Tuberculin Tested milk	....	....	....	....	4
Pasteurised milk	....	....	....	....	25
Ordinary milk (Biological)	....	—	....	....	4

23 samples of designated milk taken during the year conformed to standards laid down. Biological tests on samples of undesignated milk were satisfactory.

Bottle washing plant is used in one premise only.

Number of dairies registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 (excluding farm dairies)	....	1
Number of inspections (including farm dairies and and milk shops)	....	25
Dirty milk bottles containing milk received (replacements effected and complaints taken up with suppliers)	....	2

Under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, jointly with the Minister of Health, is empowered under Section 41 of the above Act to specify certain areas in which only designated milk can be retailed.

In the Leominster Borough area a survey has been carried out by the Area Milk Officer with a view to the specification of the area. The effect of the specification will be to limit the sale of milk within the Borough of Leominster to the following designations, and the standards pertaining thereto.

- (i) " Pasteurised "
- (ii) " Sterilised "
- (iii) " Tuberculin Tested "

Nos. (i) and (ii) above are heat treated milks and No. (iii) raw milk.

The procedure in motion is part of the Government's safe milk policy and can aptly be described as a progressive measure in the interest of public health justifying support and appreciation.

REFERENCE TO FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1956-7

Procedure during the year :

- 1. Informal notices served for all premises falling below prescribed standards
- 2. Warning letters in default
- 3. Legal proceedings in one case

WORKS DONE

Unsatisfactory sanitary conveniences altered, repaired, cleansed or redecorated	....	....	....	6
Unsanitary food rooms discovered		....	....	2
Food rooms repaired, altered or redecorated			....	11
Sinks installed or renewed	....	....	....	2
Wash basins installed	....	....	....	7
Constant hot water installed	....	....	....	7
Refuse removed from food premises		....	....	4
Non-absorbent table tops provided			....	6
Glass stands provided	....	....	....	2
First aid outfits provided	....	....	....	2
Food cabinets provided	....	....	....	1
Refrigerated display cabinets installed		....	....	8
Automatic electric fly ellimator installed	....		....	1

MAY FAIR

- 1. The three mobile food vehicles inspected in 1956 and from which the proprietors retailed hot dogs and hamburgers did not put in an appearance at the 1957 Fair.
- 2. One stall issued with a warning in the previous year and from which was retailed sweets, candy floss and brandy snaps revealed a great improvement on the 1956 standard in that the stall was redecorated and clean, sweets were covered with cellophane and the vendor was wearing a white overall.
- 3. One new stall retailing sweets and brandy snaps had a girl wearing a white overall. Polythene was on the counters.

Warnings Issued

- 1. New vendors, male and female, equipped with a small table and a van used as a place for covering apples with syrup, were warned of uncleanliness of vehicle, absence of name and address on vehicle and table, unclean overall and absence of overall, and smoking during sale.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

In the month of February the Housing and Public Health Committee recommended the adoption of byelaws designed to ensure that all houses erected in the future, be provided with grates or other fire appliances capable of burning smokeless fuels or of smokeless operation. In the same month the recommendation of the Committee was approved.

MEAT

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the Borough of Leominster. Throughout the year arrangements at the Council's Abattoir have been conducted by the Leominster Butchers' Abattoir Company. The one wholesaler previously using the abattoir has now commenced slaughtering in his own premises situated outside the Borough area. The number of animals slaughtered at the abattoir now approximates to the position which existed pre-war, thus allowing inspector respite from evening and weekend work.

Top quality young animals are bought by butchers and excellent quality meat is retailed within the Borough.

ABATTOIR

The abattoir was built in 1877. It is unsatisfactory in respect of the items set out below.

1. Lay-out and general facilities sub-standard
2. Fabric in state of disrepair and unwholesomeness
3. Absence of hanging and cooling room for reception of dressed carcasses
4. Absence of overhead runways for transfer of dressed carcasses to clean conditions

Recommended Standards

During the year, the Government issued standards in the form of draft regulations for humane slaughtering and hygiene. These regulations recommended minimum standards for the construction, layout and equipment of slaughterhouses. Advanced publication of the recommended regulations was given to enable the Local Authorities who intended to improve slaughterhouses as much information as possible about the standard Parliament are to be asked to approve. The Leominster Abattoir premises fall below the recommended minimum standards prescribed within the draft Regulations.

**CARCASES and OFFAL INSPECTED and CONDEMNED
IN WHOLE OR IN PART**

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	685	1	64	2652	801
Number inspected	685	1	64	2652	801
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	8
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	53	—	1	8	26
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	7.7%	—	1.5%	.3%	4.2%
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	—	—	—	5
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ....	.7%	—	—	—	.6%
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Approximate weight of diseased meat dealt with 527 lbs. — 1 lb. 193 lbs. 832 lbs.

TOTAL 1,553 lbs.

METHOD OF MEAT INSPECTION

In accordance with the Ministry of Food, Memo 3/Meat, inasfar as is reasonably practicable.

ANTE-MORTEM and POST-MORTEM INSPECTIONS

Inspection of all carcasses is carried out daily. Ante-mortem inspections before slaughter or post-mortem at the time at slaughter cannot, on every occasion, be carried out owing to other duties of inspector.

TRANSPORT and CARRYING OF MEAT

- 1. Vehicles of good standard are provided
- 2. Warnings issued in regard to lack of provision of head coverings—1

METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

- 1. Condemned meat and other material from abattoir—after green staining—collection by private buyer
- 2. Other foods—incineration or buried

The undernoted foods were surrendered during the year :

18 tins Canned Meats ; 68 tins Fruit ; 29 lbs. Fruit ;
17 tins Vegetables ; 80 lbs. Fish ; 14 tins Milk/Cream ;
22 lbs. Sausages ; 9 tins Imported Ham ; 16 lbs. Ham ;
2 packets Cereals ; 7 tins Soup ; 1 tin Paste.

SANITARY INSPECTION

**TABLES SHOWING INSPECTIONS
CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR**

Inspections under				Number
Housing (1936) Act	....	....	....	165
Housing (Public Health Acts)	....	....	....	98
Accommodation of Housing Applicants (Rooms, etc.)	....	....	....	18
Factories	....	....	....	114
Milk (Dairies, Schools, Shops, Vehicles)	....	....	....	29
Food Premises, Kitchens, Vehicles and Licensed Premises	....	....	....	197
Abattoir	....	....	....	600
Drains (Smoke, Colour and Water Tests)	....	....	....	9
Drains, septic tanks, sanitary conveniences altered or cleansed	....	....	....	58
Infectious Diseases and Disinfections	....	....	....	50
Rodent Control	....	....	....	231
Ice Cream Premises	....	....	....	12
Miscellaneous Visits (P.H. Act)	....	....	....	98
Pet Animals Act	....	....	....	1
Tents and Caravans	....	....	....	35
Dirty and verminous premises	....	....	....	4
Water (Wells, Springs and Main)	....	....	....	117
Schools	....	....	....	19
Farms and Piggeries	....	....	....	4
Markets	....	....	....	6
Swimming Bath	....	....	....	14

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

ANALYSES OF TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES ACCORDING TO AGE

Disease	Age of Patient									
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 & over	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	1	—	10
Whooping Cough	4	5	6	10	11	39	3	1	1	80
Measles	1	5	13	19	22	64	4	1	1	130
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Dysentery	—	—	1	—	—	3	3	—	7	14
Acute Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	5
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	6	12
Acute Poliomyelitis :										
Paralytic	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	2	5
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	1	4	3	—	1	9

TUBERCULOSIS

		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		Males	Females	Males	Females
Number on Register at 31st December, 1956		35	26	2	5
New cases notified		7	6	—	—
Moved into district		2	1	—	1
Moved out of district		—	4	—	1
Recovered		2	1	—	3
Died		1	—	—	—
Died from other causes		1	2	—	—
Number on Register at 31st December, 1957		40	26	2	2

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946, Section 26

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination and Immunisation are a County Council responsibility, and the figures given below have been kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health.

Numbers of children in the district who were immunised during the year :

Immunisation against	Age of child			Total	Reinforcing Injections
	Under 1	1-4	5-14		
Diphtheria	29	25	37	91	151
Whooping Cough	33	14	—	47	—

Number of children in the district who were vaccinated against Smallpox during the year

Vaccination against	Age of child					Total	Revaccinations
	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2-4	5-14	15 & over		
Smallpox	22	—	—	2	1	25	6

PROTECTION FROM POLIOMYELITIS

Vaccination is being carried out by the County Health Department in accordance with the Rules of the Ministry of Health as to age groups, dosage, and so on. It is not practicable to maintain separate registers of children treated who reside in the borough or in the neighbouring rural districts, so the total number of borough children protected is not available.

CAUSES OF DEATH (all ages)

Disease					Males	Females	TOTAL
Tuberculosis, respiratory	....	....	....		1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	....	....			—	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus		....			1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	....	....			—	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	....				6	4	10
Vascular lesions of nervous system		....			10	9	19
Coronary disease, angina	....	....	....		8	5	13
Hypertension with heart disease	....	....			1	1	2
Other heart disease	....	....	....		4	12	16
Other circulatory disease	....	....	....		3	3	6
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	3	3	6
Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	6	1	7
Other diseases of respiratory system		....			—	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	....	....	....		1	—	1
Congenital malformations	....	....	....		1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases		....			3	3	6
Accidents, other than motor vehicle		....			3	2	5
All causes	....	....			51	48	99

Davis Bros., School Lane, Leominster

